

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEGUCI 03776 112129Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 /035 W
-----105113 120556Z /21
R 112015Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7532

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PGOV, PINS, PINT, HO
SUBJECT: TEXACO STRIKE: SITUATION CALM

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 3712

1. SUMMARY: TEXACO REFINERY IS BACK IN PRODUCTION UNDER MILITARY CONTROL. THE SITUATION APPEARS CALM AND THE TWO SIDES ARE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOME PRODDING FROM THE GOH. END SUMMARY.

2. GENERAL ORDER NO. 1 ISSUED AUGUST 9 BY ARMED FORCES CREATES A "SPECIAL MILITARY COMMAND" AT THE TEXACO REFINERY AND REQUIRES THE COMPANY'S FIFTY-THREE EMPLOYEES TO RETURN TO WORK. INTERVENTION IS EXPLAINED BY THE NEED TO ASSURE CONTINUED SUPPLY OF PRODUCTS NECESSARY FOR THE "DEFENSE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY." SPECIAL MILITARY COMMAND'S JURISDICTION IS LIMITED TO THE REFINERY ITSELF AND IS UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE ARMED FORCES' COMMAND.

3. THE REFINERY IS NOW OPEN AND IN PRODUCTION UNDER MILITARY CONTROL. NO VIOLENCE HAS BEEN REPORTED, NOR IS ANY EXPECTED. ACCORDING TO THE DECREE, WORKERS ARE UNDER MILITARY ORDERS FOR A PERIOD OF TWO WEEKS. REFINERY UNION LEADERS HAVE MET WITH THE CHIEF OF STATE, GENERAL MELGAR, TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE
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SOLUTIONS.

4. COMMENT: ORGANIZED LABOR SUPPORT FOR THE REFINERY WORKERS HAS BEEN LOW KEY AND LIMITED TO EXPRESSIONS OF SUPPORT. THE ISSUE IS NOT VIEWED AS A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND WORKERS. IN FACT, THE REFINERY UNION HAD ORIGINALLY ASKED GENERAL MELGAR TO ARBITRATE THIS DISPUTE. HE APPARENTLY HAS

PREFERRED TO STAY OUT OF THE MIDDLE, ALTHOUGH AN ARBITRATOR
WILL PROBABLY BE NAMED IN ACCORD WITH LABOR LAW. GENERAL
PUBLIC AND PRESS REACTION APPEARS TO BE ONE OF RELIEF THAT
THE REFINERY IS AGAIN PRODUCING, ESPECIALLY GIVEN VERY LOW
PETROLEUM RESERVES AVAILABLE. THE ARMED FORCES CONCERN FOR
MILITARY SECURITY NEEDS IS REFLECTED IN ITS ALMOST IMMEDIATE
REACTION TO THE SHUTDOWN OF THE ONLY REFINERY IN THE COUNTRY.
SOME CALLS FOR NATIONALIZATION HAVE BEEN HEARD, BUT THE GOH
DOES NOT NOW APPEAR TO BE ATTRACTED BY THIS OPTION.
BARTCH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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Subject: TEXACO STRIKE: SITUATION CALM
TAGS: ELAB, PGOV, PINS, PINT, HO, TEXACO
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Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2e44105c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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